THE SPEECH OF Sr. Edw. Turnor, Kt.

SPEAKER of the Honourable House of COMMONS,

TO THE

KINGS most Excellent MAJESTY.

On Monday the Eleventh Day of *April* 1670. Upon the Adjournment of the PARLIAMENT.

LONDON, Printed by *Tho. Ratcliffe*, for *Robert Pawlet*, at the sign of the Bible in *Chancery-Lane*. 1670.

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Upon the Adjournment of the Parliament.

May it Please Your Most excellent Majesty,

AT the opening of this Session of Parliament your Majesty was pleased to speak to your two Houses, and recommended three things especially to Us: Unity amongst our selves, the Union of

of Your Majesties two Kingdoms of *England* and *Scotland*, and the supply of Your Majesties Present and Urgent Occasions: In obedience to Your Majesties Commands, we have Industriously apply'd our Selves to the Consideration of these Matters.

By the Blessing of God, all differences are buried in Oblivion; Your Majesties happy Expedient, hath like a strong Gale of Wind blown up the Rouling Sands, and filled up all Impressions. *Vestigia nulla retrorsum*: And as Your People will universally enjoy the Fruit of this happy Union, so Our United Prayers to God shall be, that Your Majesty may be Crowned with the promised Blessing, *Beati pacifici*.

In Order to the Union of Your Majesties two Kingdoms, both Your Houses of Parliament have Humbly besought Your Majesty to name Commissioners for this Your Kingdome of *England*, and we have prepared a Bill

to

to Authoriſe them, to Treat with Commiſſioners to be appointed for your Kingdom of *Scotland*, upon ſuch Grounds as ſhall be thought conducing to that end, and to Report them to your Majeſty, and to both Houſes of Parliament, of this your Kingdom of *England*, reſerving alwayes to your Majeſty, and the Two Houſes of Parliament, the entire Conſideration of the whole, and the allowing or diſallowing thereof, or any part thereof, as they ſhall think fit.

We have alſo conſidered of a Supply for your Majeſties Occaſions: and I am Commanded by the Knights, Citizens and Burgeſſes of the Houſe of Commons, to preſent your Majeſty with this Bill, whereby we have given to your Majeſty an Impoſition upon all Wines and Vinegar imported, after the rate of 8 *l.* *per* Tun for all *French* Wines and Vinegar, and 11 *l.* *per* Tun for all other Wines; and have granted

this unto your Majesty for 8. years, to Commence from *Midsummer* next. And *I* am further Commanded to acquaint your Majesty, that we apprehended the Revenue arising by the power of granting Wine-Licences, settled upon his Royal Highness by Act of Parliament, hath been prejudiced by the last Imposition upon Wines, and will be much more impaired by this present Imposition: we therefore added the last year unto this Bill of supply, with this Vote, That your Majesty be humbly desired therewith to recompence his Royal Highness the Duke of *York*, for the Damage he hath received, and shall receive in his Revenue of Wine-Licenses, by this and the last Imposition.

Having thus in the first place with all dutifulness obeyed your Majesties Commands, we held it necessary to remember those that sent us hither, and to present unto your Majesty some Bills

that

that will be of Publick Use for all the People of the Nation.

There is first a Bill, for the prevention of Seditious Conventicles, whereby no man is hindred the use of his own Judgement, in the Exercise of Religion, by himself or in his own Family, or in the presence of four Strangers; but because the Peace of the Nation may be endangered by more populous Meetings, contrary to the Liturgy and Practice of the Church of *England*, we have imposed a Penalty of 5 *s.* for the first offence, and 10 *s.* for the second, and every other offence upon all such Offenders, to be levyed by Distress and Sale of the Offenders Goods.

We are informed that your Majesty suffers much by the stealing and imbezilling of Your Ordnance, Ammunition, Sail Cloathes, and Stores; and likewise your good people are much damnified by a wicked sort of people, who make it their practise in the Night-time

to

to ſteal woollen Cloathes, and Stuffs, from off the Racks, and they are much encouraged in this their wickedneſs, by reaſon they have their Clergy: We have therefore prepared a Bill for the taking away the benefit of Clergy, upon the conviction of all ſuch offendors.

We have likewiſe prepared an Additional Bill for the rebuilding the City of *London*, wherein we have revived the Judicatory of your Majeſties twelve Judges, impowering them to hear and determine the remainder of Cauſes and Controverſies, which have not already received a Settlement by them. We have alſo made proviſion for the widening many more Streets than were mentioned in the former Act, and to enable the Lord Maior and Aldermen of the City of *London*, to give ſatisfaction to thoſe whoſe Grounds ſhall be taken from them. And alſo for laying the foundation at leaſt of the famous Cathedral of St *Paul*, and towards the rebuilding of

fifty

fifty one Pariſh Churches, we have added an *Impoſition* of 2 *s.* for every Chaldron of Coals that ſhall be brought into the Port of *London*, for the ſpace of 17 years yet to come.

We have likewiſe prepared a Bill for the aſcertaining the Meaſures of Corn and Salt, and provided that one Meaſure ſhall be uſed in all the Market-Towns of this Kingdome.

We have found great inconveniences by the want of due repairing the Highwayes of this Kingdom, and have therefore taken care for time to come both to amend them, and to prevent the ſpoiling of them again, by carrying exceſſive loads, and drawing them with extraordinary number of Horſes, and other Cattel.

Experience tells us, when the conſumption of Forreign Commodities exceeds the uſe and exportation of our Native Commodities, the Nation muſt inſenſibly grow poor, and our

Treaſure will be exhauſted: We have therefore prepared a Bill for the encouragement of Tillage, by permitting the exporting of Corn, and alſo for the encouragement of other ſorts of good Husbandry, by exporting of Horſes, Swine, and other Cattell, and of Butter and Cheeſe, and have made them all free Merchandize, paying certain Duties to your Majeſtie upon the Exportation.

There be ſome other Bills of a publick nature, and divers private Bills, all which are ready to be preſented to your Majeſtie, for your Royal Aſſent, the which I ſhall forbear to enumerate, for fear it may prove tedious to your Majeſtie.

Having given your Majeſty this Account of our proceedings, ſince our laſt meeting in this our ſhort but happy Seſſion, it is evident we have not miſpent our time, but with the good Servant in the Goſpel, have gained many Talents, ſo that we may with comfort and ſatisfaction return to our Houſes, and we hope we ſhall carry our Maſters Bleſſing with us.

FINIS.

HIS

MAJESTIES

GRACIOUS

SPEECH

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Am unwilling to let you go away, without telling you, that I am very well ſatisfied with the Succeſs of this Meeting; and that you have ſo well complyed with My Deſires, both in the Correſpondence between the Two Houſes, and in the Progreſs you have made towards an Union between the Two Kingdoms. I heartily thank you for the Supply you have given Me; and I aſſure you, I will make it go as farre as I can towards the ſatisfying of My Debts. And becauſe you have been long from home, I am content you Adjourn your ſelves till the 24th of *October* next.